

## **Press Contact:**

Jasmyne Humble Marketing and Communications Telephone: 815.933.4559

Email: jehumble@citykankakee-il.gov

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## City Actions in Response to Public or Private Gatherings Over 10 People

**Kankakee**, **IL** – As the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to spread, leaders across the globe are working to keep it from progressing. Governor J.B. Pritzker's Executive "Shelter-in-Place" Order for the state of Illinois went into effect at 5:00 p.m. on March 21, 2020 which mandates all residents to stay at home with the exception of leaving for what is deemed as essential purposes in the Executive Order here: <a href="https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/Executive-Orders/ExecutiveOrder2020-10.aspx">https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/Executive-Orders/ExecutiveOrder2020-10.aspx</a>.

In addition, all public and private gatherings of more than 10 people are prohibited unless exempt by the Executive Order. Mayor Wells-Armstrong announced the City of Kankakee will continue to follow the guidelines and the Kankakee Police Department will continue to seek compliance within the community.

"We all need to do our part to follow the guidelines of our officials in order to keep the virus from spreading. If you see a gathering of more than 10 people or a group that is not following social-distancing guidelines of six feet apart, report it to the police at the time of the incident," said Mayor Wells-Armstrong.

If there is failure to comply with public or private gatherings of more than 10 people, due process will involve:

- A conversation from an officer to clarify the guidelines of the Executive Order.
- Police will issue a cease and decease notice.
- A court order would be sought.
- If the court order is violated, a criminal misdemeanor charge will follow.

"The police department will remain vigilant and continue to follow the guidelines recommended by the Illinois State Police to obtain compliance with the Executive Order. As always, the assistance of the community is requested in keeping the community safe. Any person aware of non-compliance with the Executive Order is requested to

contact the Kankakee Police Department at 815-933-3321 so that the matter can be evaluated and appropriate action will be taken," said Chief Frank Kosman.

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The City of Kankakee is dedicated to protecting, building and nurturing the community while enhancing lives. We are a historic, vibrant, and active riverfront community. We continue to transform into an extraordinary place to dream, grow, and thrive. Embracing our diversity, we strive to be progressive, inclusive, and innovative. For more information on the City of Kankakee, please visit the website at <a href="https://www.citykankakee-il.gov">www.citykankakee-il.gov</a>.